

February 3, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Commission Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12 Street SW  
CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I recently learned that SBC is going to make an application to the Federal Communications Commission to offer long distance service in Michigan.

I would like to applaud SBC for this effort. As you are aware, a truly open market, where all telecommunications companies compete for all customers, saves consumers money. Full competition affords consumers the freedom to select among various companies based on convenience, price and service. They can have one-stop shopping for all their communication needs, or they can pick the best provider for each service.

In the long run, it would truly be advantageous for Michigan businesses and residential consumers to have access to a truly open market.

Sincerely,

Al Hendra  
Assistant Administrator/Human Resources

AH/dla